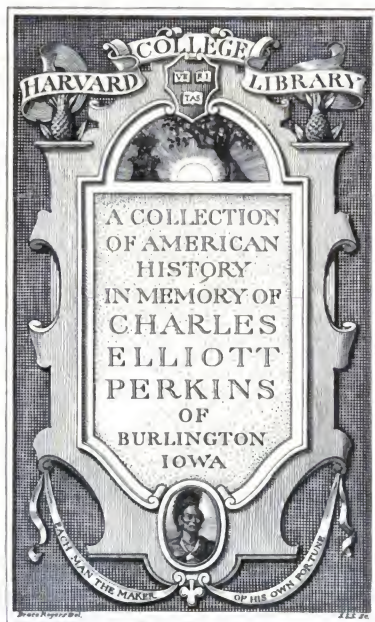


REPORT, AS TO THE RELATIVE EFFICIENCY OF THE REPEATING PISTOLS

United States. Congress.
Senate. Committee on...



War 4338.51



U.S. - Cong. - Sen. Committee on Military Affairs

31st Congress,
2d Session.

[SENATE.]

REP. CON
No. 257.

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

War 4398.51

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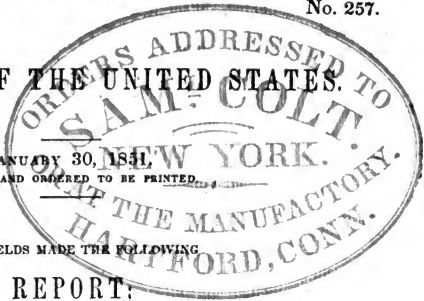
SUBMITTED AND ORDERED TO BE PRINTED.

JUN 30 1915

CHARLES ELLIOTT PERKINS

MEMORIAL COLLECTION MR. SHIELDS MADE THE FOLLOWING

REPORT:



The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the reply of the Secretary of War to the resolution of the Senate of September 30, 1850, directing him to ascertain the opinion of the Officers of the Ordnance Bureau, and of the United States mounted regiments, as to the relative efficiency of the REPEATING PISTOLS, invented by Samuel Colt, and other inventors, their adaptation to the service, and the propriety of substituting the most improved repeating pistol for the common dragoon pistol now in use, respectfully report :—

THAT they have examined the documents submitted by the Secretary of War, and find that, in conformity with the request of the said resolution, a board of United States ordnance officers were convened at Washington City, by General Talcott, chief of the Ordnance Bureau, on the 13th of November last, to "make trial of such repeating and other arms as might be presented for that purpose." Due notice of the assembling of the board and its object was given to ALL inventors of repeating pistols and other arms, who were known to the Ordnance Bureau, and they were respectfully invited to attend with samples of their arms. Inquiries were also addressed to those officers who were supposed to be the most experienced in the use of repeating pistols, and their opinions collected as to the merits of such arms. Colt's, Leavitt's, Warner's, and Perry's were submitted for examination and fully tested, and the result of these enquiries and experiments has been to establish the superiority of Colt's repeating pistol over all others, and, with some slight alterations and improvements, its admirable adaptation to the dragoon service. Those repeating arms first constructed by Mr. Colt, were too complicated and easily deranged to be fit for rough service. Previous, however, to the year 1840, they had been so much improved, that many highly experienced officers recommended their trial in the army and navy, believing them to be admirably adapted for such service. In the progress of improvement, complexity has yielded to simplicity, and delicacy to strength, as appears by the inspection returns of Major Thornton, a member of the board of ordnance officers. He reports that only one pistol failed in the inspection trial out of the last two thousand and eighty-two tested in 1850; and even this failure was attributed to the imperfect metal of the particular arm. These improvements by Mr. Colt, in the construction of the repeating-arms, have encouraged the department to adopt them gradually into the service—first in the ranger troops employed in Mexico, and afterward in the mounted riflemen; until at this time they have grown into general favor with the army and

country; and there are numerous requisitions for them upon the department, which the government has not the arms to supply.

On the Texan frontier and on the several routes to California, the Indian tribes are renewing their murderous warfare, and a general Indian war is likely to ensue, unless bodies of mounted men, efficiently equipped for such service, are employed against them. Experience has proved that it is difficult to contend successfully against savages with the usual arms of mounted men—the ordinary dragoon pistol and Hall's carbine. General Harney, who employed Colt's pistol successfully in Florida, says: "It is the only weapon with which we can hope ever to subdue those wild and daring tribes, unless we can have at least three regiments of dragoons on the Texas frontier alone;" and those officers who have recently returned from the frontier corroborate this statement by declaring, that a dragoon armed with Colt's repeating pistol and a musketoon, or perhaps Sharp's rifle, would be the most efficient and the most formidable for frontier service; and particularly when encounters with the savages occur, as they generally do, in prairies, defiles, and mountain gorges. The advantages of repeating-arms in such encounters are incalculable. A few bold men, well skilled in the use of these weapons, can, under such circumstances, encounter and scatter almost any number of savages.

The committee take occasion, in this connection, to refer to the report of Brevet Brigadier General Talcott, colonel of ordnance; the report of the board of ordnance officers; and to the abstract from the opinions of various experienced officers of the army in relation to this subject—all of which accompany this report, and testify to the efficiency and adaptation of Colt's repeating pistol to the service of mounted troops. The committee accordingly recommend that COLT'S repeating pistols be substituted, under the direction and in the discretion of the department, in lieu of the common dragoon pistol now in use in the service, and that a sufficient quantity be purchased, so far as the same can be done within the present regular appropriations, to supply such demands as may be made upon and allowed by the department.

No. 1.

A summary of the reports of the board of officers convened to examine the various kinds of repeating fire-arms, and their adaptation to the cavalry service of the United States army.

"The board of ordnance officers, convened by order of Brigadier General George Talcott, colonel of ordnance, dated November 6, 1850, for the purpose of making trial of such repeating, and other arms, as might be presented for that purpose, in pursuance of the resolution of the Senate, and directions of the Secretary of War, have the honor to report, that the following pistols were presented, examined, and tried by them during their session at the Washington arsenal since the 13th instant, viz: 1st. Colt's, 2d. Leavitt's; 3d. Warner's; 4th. Perry's. That the first three are similar in principle, viz: with a revolving cylinder, containing six charges and one barrel; the fourth is constructed on a different plan, the breech being hung upon trunnions upon which it revolves. * * * * *

"From the opportunities of experimenting with Colt's pistol, and from its use in service, the inventor has been able to remedy defects and

strengthen weak parts; and the inspection reports accompanying this, of such pistols as were made during the past year, show that the material is of a better quality than that used in the previous manufacture of his pistol; and the trials made by this board are conclusive evidence to their minds, that, when made of really good materials, they are capable of meeting all reasonable demands of service.

"The common cavalry pistol is seldom successfully used in action; but for frontier or other service, where a small number of men are often exposed to the attack of a much stronger force, a pistol susceptible of repeating its discharge, would be of great efficiency; and its advantages over the common dragoon pistol on such occasions, have been proved in several instances.

"From the examination and trials which they have made of these arms, the board are of opinion that Colt's revolving pistol is better adapted to the service of mounted troops than any other pistol offered to their notice, and may be advantageously substituted for the present cavalry pistol."

"BREVET COL. R. L. BAKER,	} <i>Ordinance Board of Practice.</i>
" MAJ. A. MORDECAI,	
" COL. BENJ. HUGER,	
" MAJ. W. A. THORNTON,	
" LIEUT. COL. TALCOTT,"	

Accompanying the above report is the journal of the board, and a detailed statement of the experiments made and the results obtained, from which the following abstract is made:—

"Mr. Colt, by request of the board, fired his pistol to show the penetration of the balls and the number of times it could be fired without the revolution of the cylinder being suspended by the clogging of the caps, the slugging of the lead, or the collection of dirt on the base pin.

"The board directed that two of Colt's pistols be fired 200 times each, and that during the firing it be observed—

"1st. What number of times the cylinder may be discharged before its revolution is suspended by the accumulation of the deposits from the smoke.

"2d. Whether the exploded caps ever remain in the cone recess so as to produce any serious obstruction.

"3rd. How many discharges may be made before the bores become so foul as to render it difficult to force in the balls by the lever.

"4th. Whether, in firing, any lead from the balls is thrown out at the joint between the barrel and cylinders."

To determine these points, Colt's holster pistol was fired twelve hundred times, and his belt pistol fifteen hundred times, cleaning but once a day, when the board determined that no further trial was necessary; and they have reported that "neither of the pistols appeared to be injured by the firing." The penetration of Colt's holster pistol was found to be through seven inches of board, and his belt pistol through six inches, while the highest penetration of the common dragoon pistol was only through five inches. The other pistols of similar construction and of holster size, submitted to the board by Messrs. Warner, Perry, and Leavitt, were fired two hundred and twenty-two times, twenty-seven times, and five hundred and forty times respectively, and penetrated through three, four, and five inches: The tabular statement made by the board, and hereto annexed shows the result obtained in detail.

Summary statement of the penetration and number of discharges of the different pistols presented to the board ; also, weight of pistol, balls, and charge.

NAME OF INVENTOR OR EXHIBITOR.	Weight of pistol.	Weight of balls.	Weight of powder.	Number of shots fired.	Penetration.
	Lbs. oz.	Grains.	Grains.		
Samuel Colt—holster,.....	4 4	146	30	1,200	7 boards.
belt pistol, ...	2 6	83	20	1,500	6 boards.
*Leavitt—holster, ...	4 0	107	30	540	5 boards.
*Warner—holster, ...	3 6	107	30	222	3 boards.
Perry—holster, ...	3 4	209	30	27	4 boards.
United States single-charge holster,.....					5 boards.
The target was made of 9-10 inch boards, 1 inch apart ; distance of target, 16 yards.					

Major Thornton, United States Ordnance Department, under whose direction the inspection of Mr. Colt's repeating-arms used by the government has been made, reports the number of arms burst in testing, and shows that great improvements have been made in their manufacture.

In 1848, ten hundred and sixty arms were tested, and sixty barrels and fifty-three cylinders burst, which is understood to be about the usual ratio of failures in common muskets and pistols.

In 1849, ten hundred and eleven arms were tested, and but eleven barrels and thirty cylinders burst.

In 1850, two thousand and eighty-two arms were tested, and only one barrel and one cylinder burst ; showing a much smaller proportion of defective arms than in any other manufactured for or by the government, which is attributed by the inventor to the peculiar excellence of the material used, and the great strength of the model of the arms.

No. 2.

General Talcott, Chief of the Ordnance Department, after reporting that he caused notice to be given to all inventors of repeating-arms, that

*The pistol exhibited by Mr. Leavitt, and sold by Messrs. William H. Smith & Co., New York ; also, the pistol exhibited by Mr. Warner, and sold by Messrs. Young & Leavitt, New York, are considered infringements upon Colt's Patents, and suits for damages have been commenced against these parties by Mr. Colt ; and the penalties of the court will be extended to all who make themselves liable, under the patent laws of the United States, of which the following clause is an extract :—

"SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons shall devise, make, construct, use, employ, or vend within these United States, any art, manufacture, engine, machine, or device, or any invention of improvement upon, or in any art, manufacture, engine, machine, or device, the sole and exclusive right of which shall be so as aforesaid granted by patent to any person or persons, by virtue and in pursuance of this act, without the consent of the patentee or patentees, their executors, administrators or assigns, first had and obtained in writing, every person so offending, shall forfeit and pay to the said patentee or patentees, his, her, or their executors, administrators or assigns, such damages as shall be assessed by a jury, and moreover shall forfeit to the person so aggrieved the thing or things so devised, made, constructed, used, employed, or vend, contrary to the true intent of this act, which may be recovered in an action on the case founded on this act."

the board of ordnance officers would assemble at Washington to examine arms which might be presented to them and that such examination had been made, and that he had called upon the various officers, whose means of observation were sufficient to entitle their opinion to much consideration, for their opinions, proceeds to say:—

“The pistols (Colt’s) last made, have been modified in some respects from the original pattern, and much improved in the manufacture, particularly in the materials used. Their use by the troops has produced no complaint, except as to the flasks which were furnished with them. These are found so defective, that, in the eighth military department, (Texas,) resort has been had to the use of cartridges, instead of the separate powder and ball. I am of opinion that cartridges will be found preferable in all cases, and the objection on account of defective flasks thus remedied. The trials of the ordnance board show *extraordinary durability* of the pistol then used, and prove that they can be made strong and lasting. The practical experience of such officers as have seen them used by troops in active service, is in favor of them—some entirely; others only to their being furnished to a limited extent, and to selected men.”

General Talcott is of opinion that they should be furnished to parts of companies, and to selected men, rather than to the entire mounted service; and he considers their greater cost a reason for limiting the supply.

No. 3.

General Harney, under date of November 8, 1850, says:—

“I consider the arm perfect for the dragoon service, particularly when opposed to the western prairie Indians. It is the only weapon with which we can hope ever to subdue these wild and daring tribes, unless we can have at least *three* regiments of dragoons on the *Texas frontier alone*. I consider Colt’s repeating pistol *equal*, in *every* respect, to any other pistol now in use, and *very greatly* superior in almost every respect.

“In 1837 or 1838, Mr. Colt took some of his rifles to Florida. A board of officers was ordered to examine them, and report on their efficiency, &c. The report was favorable, and General Jessup ordered the purchase of fifty, and they were placed in my hands. They were very delicately made, easily put out of order, and very difficult to repair. They were the first ever used or manufactured. Thirty-odd of them were lost at Caloosa Hatchee, all at the time in good order; and most of the others, with but little repairs, would be still good, and were turned over to the ordnance officer at Baton Rouge in 1842 or ’43. During the whole of this time they were in constant use, *and not one single accident to the injury of any person occurred; and I honestly believe that but for these arms, the Indians would now be luxuriating in the everglades of Florida.*”

No. 4

Captain M. E. Van Buren, of mounted rifles, under date of November 4, 1850, says:—

“Within the past ten years, I have had opportunities of becoming familiar with Colt’s pistol, having carried one on the march to Oregon, and also when accompanying Colonel Loring in his pursuit of deserters in March and April last, when we were exposed to almost incessant rains, and having used or practiced with it almost daily. This experience, with

that which I had previously acquired, has led me to adopt the most favorable opinion of Colt's repeating pistol as to efficiency and adaptation to the service of our mounted troops.

"Colt's revolver possesses the following advantages over the common dragoon pistol: It contains five more shots at one loading; it has greater length of range and accuracy of aim, and these give greater confidence and moral to the soldier. * * * It is less liable to premature discharge than any other percussion arm with which I am acquainted. If the common dragoon pistol, capped ready for use, be carried in the holster at half cock, the cap is very liable to come off. If the hammer be let down on the cap, to secure it, there is great danger of premature discharge at any gait faster than a walk. Colt's pistol is free from these objections. The position of the cones secures the caps in their place, without the necessity of letting down the hammer; and the hammer being down upon the pan, it would require more motion than the pistol is likely to get in the holster, to pull the hammer back far enough to revolve the chamber and present a cap to the hammer.

"I do not think this pistol more liable to get out of order than any other. I certainly found mine, which was put to very severe tests in the way of use and exposure, and to which I gave no more care than I would have given to any other kind of pistol, always in efficient condition."

No. 5.

Major Bell, at the St. Louis Arsenal, dissents from the opinion of other officers in regard to the general adoption of Colt's arm by government, and says:—

"But, notwithstanding the favorable views herein presented of this repeating-arm, I must respectfully dissent from the opinion that it should be immediately adopted into service, on the mere opinion of able men, or even on the proof of experiment of scientific boards, without patiently waiting the results of the present very extended proof of service, (which the department, I suppose, have intended,) and which is now going on upon these arms, in Oregon, New Mexico, and Texas, and which can not, in the nature of things, be fairly concluded, under two or three years to come."

Colonel Sumner, Colonel Beale, Captain Holmes, Captain Chilton, and Lieutenant Magilton, write in a letter, in which they say:—

"We think that all non-commissioned officers of cavalry should be armed with them, as they are men selected for their steadiness and capacity: they would generally keep them in good order, and would, of course, be much more formidable."

No. 6.

The Committee on Military Affairs, at the 2d Session of last Congress, to whom was referred the Memorial of Samuel Colt, on the subject of his improved repeating fire-arms, report:—

That they have examined the same, together with the report of the Military Committee of the Senate, of last session, on the subject, with other evidence, furnished by distinguished military officers, as to the superiority of this weapon over all others, for mounted troops, and find that all who have used them, or seen them used in the late war with Mexico, and elsewhere, are of the opinion, that they are the most efficient and

economical arms that can be employed in our Indian territory, and on our extended line of frontier. In confirmation of this opinion, the committee have deemed it proper to accompany this report with the following extracts from the letters and papers before them; and also, to recommend that a sufficient number of the pistols be procured, to arm all the mounted troops of the United States, engaged in the frontier service.

No. 7.

Extract from the Report of the Committee on Military Affairs, made 1st Session of last Congress.

"The positive evidence which has been submitted to the committee, is of a character which needs no recommendation. It is only necessary to say, that Major General Taylor, General Twiggs, Major General John A. Quitman, Brigadier General Shields, Brigadier General Pierce, Colonel Croghan, inspector general, Colonel Harney, Colonel Jefferson Davis, Major McCulloch, Captain Samuel H. Walker, Captain B. S. Roberts, Lieutenant B. F. McDonald, G. W. Kendall, Colonel W. T. Haskell, Colonel W. H. Russell, Major J. P. Gaines, Doct. C. B. Zabriskie, and J. L. Freaner, all now, or recently, in active service, in the Mexican war, have expressed themselves, in decided terms, in favor of these arms; and that the array of facts, furnished by some of these officers, can not fail to enforce the opinions which they have expressed upon this subject.

"Under all these circumstances, your committee agree in opinion, with the officers above named, when they state, that one hundred cavalry, armed with the repeating pistol, would be at least as efficient as three hundred armed in the ordinary way. They believe, moreover, that economy, as well as the efficiency which would be given to our force, particularly for all the service that may be expected from our army for years to come, render it advisable that all the mounted men belonging to the military establishment, be supplied with these pistols, and that a sufficient number of them be kept on hand, to meet any unexpected emergency.

"Your committee, therefore, report that in their opinion, Colt's repeating pistols are the most efficient arm for mounted men and frontier troops, now known or used; and that it is highly expedient for the government to introduce them into extensive use for these purposes. That, in regard to the procuring of these arms, the committee concur in the opinion of the chief of the ordnance department, that they can be manufactured to greater advantage by the inventor than by the government at its armories, he having provided the machinery suitable for the purpose."

Testimonials from the President of the United States, Senators and Representatives in Congress, and distinguished Officers of the Army and Navy of the United States, and others.

No. 8.

The following extract is from the Message of the President of the United States to the Senate:

"Such is the favorable opinion entertained of the value of this arm, particularly for mounted corps, that the Secretary of War has contracted

with Mr. Colt, for four thousand of his pistols," without awaiting a special appropriation of Congress.

No. 9.

Communication from the Texan Senators and Representatives in Congress, to the President of the United States.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 3, 1848.

DEAR SIR: Possessing a thorough knowledge of "Colt's patent repeating fire-arms," we feel it to be our duty to recommend them in the strongest terms to your favorable consideration.

The advantages that Texas has experienced from their use, in her struggle for independence, and against Indian aggression, has been incalculable.

The difficulties presented by some men without experience in the use of those arms, such as that they are too liable to get out of order, has been proved by ten years' constant use in Texas, to be without foundation. Some of these arms, purchased of Mr. Colt more than ten years ago, have been safely and successfully used in every engagement we have had with the Mexicans and Indians since that time, and are now in good serviceable condition, and are esteemed beyond price by their possessors.

Believing that the power rests with you to order a full supply of these valuable arms for the defence of our extended frontier, without further legislation, we most respectfully ask that you will at once order them to be made.

We do not doubt but that five thousand mounted men, armed with two of these pistols and a rifle, would do more service than twenty thousand armed in the ordinary way, thereby saving to the government hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, and affording protection as well to the frontiers against Indians, as to all parties passing through the Indian country.

With great respect, your obedient servants,

THOMAS J. RUSK, *U. S. Senate.*
DAVID S. KAUFMAN, *House of Reps.*
SAMUEL HOUSTON, *U. S. Senate.*
T. PILSBURY, *House of Reps.*
from Texas.

To the PRESIDENT of the United States.

No. 10.

WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 1850.

DEAR SIR: In reply to your letter of the 25th inst., I will state that Colt's repeating pistols are preferred in California, over any other kind of arms. In fact, there is no part of the Union, where they are so highly esteemed. Every man in that country would have one if he could get it. I am sure that thousands could have been sold there during the last summer. The Indians in the gorges of the Sierra Nevada are terrified into honest habits, by the miners in that region being armed with these pistols.

WM. M. GWIN,
U. S. Senator from California.

I concur in the above opinion, and can not too highly recommend them.

J. C. FREMONT, *U. S. Senator from California.*

WASHINGTON CITY, May 4, 1850.

The undersigned take pleasure in corroborating the above statement and testimony of the Hon. Wm. M. Gwin, of California.

EDWARD GILLET,
G. W. WRIGHT,

House of Reps. from California.

HON. ANDREW EWING, *Committee on Military Affairs,*
House of Representatives.

No. 11.

"We are sensible of the great superiority of Mr. Colt's pistols in the hands of mounted troops, for the protection of the inhabitants of our frontier."

HENRY DODGE, *U. S. Senator from Wisconsin.*
A. C. DODGE, *U. S. Senator from Iowa.*
H. K. SEBASTIAN, *U. S. Senator from Arkansas.*
R. W. JOHNSON, *House of Reps. from Arkansas.*

No. 12.

"I have used Colt's revolving pistols, and seen them used by others, both in Texas and Mexico; and I have no hesitation in saying that I believe them far superior to any other arm ever invented, both for service and for the ease with which they may be kept in order."

JERE. CLEMENS, *U. S. Senator from Alabama,*
Late Lieut. Col. 9th Infantry, United States Army.

No. 13.

We the undersigned, members of the Military Committee of the House of Representatives, understanding that an application is pending before your committee favorably commended by the ordnance department, for the purchase of a suitable number of Colt's pistols, and authorizing the department to furnish the same to emigrants at government prices, and to deliver the same to the States, under the act of 1808, for arming the militia, recommend the same to your favorable consideration, and believe that such a clause in the Army Bill would be desirable and proper.

Signed,

ARMISTEAD BURT,
D. K. CARTER,
W. A. RICHARDSON,
JAMES WILSON,
ANDREW EWING,
GEO. A. CALDWELL,
JAS. R. CHANDLER,
JOHN A. KING,
ALEXANDER EVANS,

*Members of the
Military Committee
House of Rep.*

HON. THOMAS H. BAYLEY, *Chairman of Committee of Ways and Means, House of Representatives.*

No. 14.

Having examined your patent rifles and pistols, we have no hesitation in saying that we consider the invention simple and meritorious, and think it will hereafter be adopted in practice.

LEWIS CASS, *late Secretary of War.*

M. DICKERSON, *late Secretary of the Navy.*

ALEXANDER MACOMB, *late Maj. Gen.,
Commanding the Army of the U. S.*

C. GRATIOT, *late Brig. Gen. and Chief Engineer.*

No. 15.

Major General Zachary Taylor, late commanding army of occupation, in a letter to the inventor, writes: "I have been much pleased with an examination which I have made of your new modeled repeating pistols, and feel satisfied that, under *all* circumstances, they may be safely relied on."

No. 16.

From Brevet Major General Twiggs, 2d Division United States Army, in Mexico.

WASHINGTON, April 24, 1848.

DEAR SIR: In reply to your inquiry relative to the value of Colt's repeating-arms, for the use of regular troops, I take pleasure in stating, that I have seen nothing to change my opinion of them, favorably expressed, after a series of experiments made during the war in Florida.

The new model is a very great improvement upon the arms used in those experiments, and I have no doubt can be relied on under all circumstances, in the hands of the soldiers of the regular army, as well as in the hands of the Texan rangers and volunteers.

These arms have been universally approved by all who have used them, and been conversant with their use in the present war with Mexico, and I can not too highly recommend their general use in the army.

The present carbine furnished by the ordnance department to our mounted troops, is of but little use; if its place could be supplied by two of Colt's improved pistols, each man could fire twelve times at the commencement of a fight, and incalculable advantages would be gained.

I am glad to learn that this subject is exciting the attention of government; and I hope immediate measures may be adopted, to obtain a full supply of this most valuable fire-arm, for our Indian and Mexican frontier.

With great respect, I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,

Brigadier General, U. S. A.

General T. J. RUSK,

Military Committee, U. S. Senate.

No. 17.

Brevet Major General W. J. Worth, United States Army, in a letter to Mr. Colt, writes: "The recent Mexican War has fully demonstrated the

formidable character of this weapon in all mounted corps or partisan service. You can have no better or higher testimony, than that of General Lane and Colonel Jack Hays, both gallant officers and of large experience. In a higher degree will its value be shown in our Indian contests, where the onset is sudden, and fierce, and momentary—where it is of first importance to deliver the largest amount of fire in the briefest time.

“Wishing you success in your praiseworthy efforts to improve the armament of the country, I remain,” &c.

No. 18.

Major General Gideon J. Pillow, commanding volunteer division in Mexico, writes: “In reply, I do not hesitate to say, I regard Colt’s repeating pistol as the most formidable fire-arm with which I have any acquaintance, for all mounted troops.

“Indeed, I do not understand how its value can be doubted by any familiar with its use.”

No. 19.

Major General John A. Quitman, commanding volunteer division in Mexico, reports: “I am well acquainted with Colt’s patent repeating fire-arms, having seen them frequently used, and having personally tested them. I regard his six-shooter as the most formidable and effective weapon which can be placed in the hands of cavalry, of every description, and mounted gunmen or riflemen. I therefore cordially recommend their use to the government.”

No. 20.

Brevet Major General George M. Brooke, Colonel 5th Infantry, U. S. Army, reports: “I have no doubt of the great efficiency of Colt’s pistols, which have been truly tested against both Indians and Mexicans; and their very destructive fire has elicited the admiration and fear of those against whom they have been directed.”

No. 21.

Brigadier General S. W. Kearney, United States Army, reports: “Colt’s pistol is most certainly a very powerful weapon in the hands of a cool and careful man, and may be used with very great effect against Indians, or other irregular light troops. The advantages of the pistol, in my opinion, far outweigh the objections that are offered against it.”

No. 22.

Brevet Brigadier General W. S. Harney, Colonel 2d Dragoons, United States Army, reports that, “He has had more than ten years’ experience in the use of Colt’s repeating fire-arms, and no arm, in his judgment, ever yet constructed, can equal them; they are, with fair usage, as little liable to get out of order as any other arm, and they are, *at least*, three times as effective. It is my intention to apply to the Hon. Secretary of War, to have all the cavalry armed with them.”

No. 23.

Brevet Brigadier General Matthew Arbuckle, Colonel 7th Infantry, United States Army, reports: "I am of opinion that Colt's pistol is decidedly the best and most formidable weapon a horseman can be furnished with, and that our mounted force ought to have no other, except good swords, when acting in an open country, against any enemy whomsoever."

No. 24.

Brigadier General Shields, commanding 1st Brigade Volunteers in Mexico, reports that: "Colt's last improved revolving pistol, in my opinion, is a most excellent and effective weapon in the present cavalry service in Mexico. It possesses an advantage of at least three to one over the common pistol. I find it, also, free from that complexity which it was feared would render it less serviceable in actual service, and in a campaign. I do not hesitate to give it a decided preference in cavalry service in Mexico, over all other species of fire-arms, and recommend its general use in that service."

No. 25.

Brigadier General F. Pierce, commanding volunteers in Mexico, reports that he had, "A pretty thorough knowledge of the weapon named within, I cheerfully concur in the opinion of General Shields."

No. 26.

Brigadier General Joseph Lane, commanding volunteers in Mexico, writes: "I think I can say as much for and about this formidable weapon as any one now living, except Col. Jack Hays, of Texas, (poor Walker is no more.) I have seen them tested in several severe and bloody conflicts, when a few men, armed with Colt's revolver, were equal to five, and in several instances to ten times their numbers. No weapon is equal to it. In close quarters one man is always equal to three or more. I know the use of it well, and would recommend that all mounted forces be armed with them."

No. 27.

Brevet Brigadier General George Talcott, Colonel of Ordnance, United States Army, expresses the following opinion in a report: "That the breech loading is advantageous, inasmuch as it gives 'a greater velocity and precision of direction to the ball,' and that the advantage 'is acknowledged by all.'"

No. 28.

Colonel G. Croghan, Inspector General, United States Army, "Believes them, from the declaration of hundreds who have used them in conflicts with the enemy in Mexico, to be superior, in every particular, to all other pistols. Hopes they may be brought into more general use; to effect which, his official efforts shall be directed."

No. 29.

Colonel John W. Tibbatts, 16th Infantry, United States Army, reports: "I have given Colt's repeating pistols a trial on many occasions, and find them to shoot with great force and accuracy. At the distance of fifty yards I have frequently buried a ball in the hard wood of Mexico, when balls fired from a musket against the same tree, fell flattened to the ground."

No. 30.

Colonel William Davenport, 1st Infantry, United States Army, writes: "I judge that it may safely be inferred that, if one pistol is useful, six will be still more so; and any invention which will enable us, in time of great need, to deliver six shots without losing time, may be regarded as an improvement which should be adopted."

No. 31.

Colonel Jefferson Davis, Mississippi volunteer rifle regiment, in Mexico, writes: "For the attack of Mexican guerillas, they have been, and no doubt will be, found most efficient. The only doubt on his mind, is whether, under the exposures incident to active service, they can be kept in order; on this point refers to Colonel Harney and Major McCullough."

No. 32.

Colonel George W. Morgan, 15th Infantry, United States Army in Mexico, reports that "Practical experience has rendered it certain, that Colt's repeater is the most destructive and effective weapon that can be used in close quarters: and in the hands of the disciplined soldier, it requires no more care than the ordinary dragoon pistol. I think that the repeater would be more effective against regular troops than when opposed to mere guerrillas. The guerrilla will fly before the regular soldier begins to fight. Heretofore, good cavalry have not been able to cope with good infantry, and for the simple reason that the bayonet is greatly superior to the sabre.

"In the field of Waterloo, we have a case directly in point. The French cavalry charged the English squares, time and again, without effect; and, finally, became so desperate that they sought to back their horses through the English formation. Let us suppose the cavalry to have been armed with Colt's repeaters; that, after having drawn the fire of the squares, they had borne down upon them, and, with the rapidity of thought, poured into their faces six well-directed volleys. I will not say that such would have been the result, but there is a strong probability that the squares must have melted away before such a storm of balls."

No. 33.

Colonel Robert E. Temple, 10th Infantry, United States Army in Mexico, writes: "I have an exalted opinion of the usefulness and efficiency of this arm; and it appears to me that a substitution of two of Colt's pistols for the carbine, in the equipment of our dragoons, would be a highly beneficial improvement."

No. 34.

Colonel W. T. Haskell, 2d Regiment Tennessee Volunteers in Mexico, reports Colt's pistol: "Is certainly superior to any arm of that character which has yet been introduced into our army, and I should be much pleased to see the government adopt it as a part of equipment of every cavalry soldier.."

No. 35.

Colonel Ward Burnett, New York volunteers in Mexico, writes: "Colt's pistols are superior in every particular to any other, and especially effective in the hands of mounted men. I regard the late improvements as very important, and recommend that every species of cavalry and all mounted officers should be armed with them"

No. 36.

Colonel W. H. Russell, California expedition: "In Indian warfare, and in operations against the Mexicans, I know of no weapon so *formidable*, and I sincerely hope that they may be extensively introduced into our army."

No. 37.

Colonel George W. Hughes, District of Columbia volunteer regiment, writes: "I heard but one opinion expressed in Mexico, on the subject by those who had occasion frequently to use that arm, which was decidedly in its favor. They all spoke in the highest terms of its accuracy of aim, force of projection, and safety; in which opinion, from my knowledge of the arm, I concur."

No. 38.

Colonel Jack Hayes, commanding the Texas rangers, in Mexico, writes: "I have had a good opportunity of testing the utility of Colt's pistols during the late Mexican war, and I feel no hesitation in saying they are superior (in my opinion) to any other now known for cavalry. The danger of accidental explosion has been obviated by the late improvement. They go off clear. The cylinders revolve with great rapidity; and the distance they carry a ball, (I mean the conical ball,) is indeed surprising. Soldiers should be practiced in the use of them. They soon become easy to the hand; the aim you wish to draw can be easily caught; and when placed in the hands of those who understand the proper use of them, they are unquestionably the most formidable weapon ever used in battle therefore concur fully in the opinion that they can be used with the same advantage by the regular as volunteer forces."

No. 39.

Lieut. Colone Nathan Boone, 2d Dragoons, United States Army, writes: "I am bound to state that, in my opinion, Colt's repeating pistol is the

most efficient which could be furnished the cavalry or mounted men, more particularly when acting against lancers. or our western Indians of the prairies."

No. 40.

Brevet Colonel C. A. May, Capt. 2d Dragoons, U. S. Army, reports that, "At the commencement of the war with Mexico, I was fortunate in procuring a number of Colt's pistols for my command. I used them in all the battles and skirmishes in which I was engaged, and take great pleasure in bearing testimony to their superiority over any other arm of the kind I have ever used.

"During the time I had them in use, (which was about one year and a half,) they were exposed to all kinds of weather and service; and I never found any difficulty in keeping them in proper order with ordinary attention. I consider them the most effective arm we could adopt for our cavalry service, and I trust the day is not far distant when we will have all our mounted men armed with them.

No. 41.

Lieutenant Colonel T. P. Moore, 3d Dragoons, United States Army, writes: "During my short visit to Washington, I had a conversation with Colonel Harney on the subject of Colt's pistols, in which I then expressed the opinion that the arming of our corps with Colt's revolvers would double its efficiency. I am still of that opinion.

"That this weapon should be furnished to mounted volunteers, and withheld from the regulars, is passing strange. Nothing can be more certain than that the discipline prevailing in the regular army would better secure the preservation, and, consequently, the efficiency of this weapon in the hands of regular soldiers. I hope the government will not hesitate to adopt this measure."

No. 42.

Lieutenant Colonel J. E. Johnson, Voltigeur regiment, U. S. Army, writes: "Fully concurring in opinion with the committee as to the value of Colt's pistol, I earnestly hope that your efforts to introduce it in the army may be successful. If so, you will undoubtedly render our cavalry far more formidable than they now are. Cavalry would, in my opinion, be far better armed with this weapon alone, than with the sabres and pistols now used. In addition to the advantage of repeating, this pistol shoots with more force and accuracy than the ordinary one, and is, indeed, the best weapon known. A strong argument in its favor is, that all those in the army who had the privilege of selecting their arms, when possible, provided themselves with it. The mere workmanship of these pistols, too, is admirable."

No. 43.

Lieutenant Colonel B. L. E. Bonneville, 4th Infantry, U. S. Army, writes: "I look upon Colt's repeating pistol invaluable as an arm. In fact, whilst the army was operating in Mexico, every officer and soldier who could obtain one, had it, cost what it would. I deem the arm

invaluable in the hands of riflemen and light infantry, acting as skirmishers. I have no doubt they would be valued highly, also, by the cannoneers, in the melee which follows a charge upon a battery of field pieces."

No. 44.

Brevet Lieutenant Colonel J. Bankhead Magruder, Capt. 1st Artillery U. S. Army, writes: "I have been for many years acquainted with the use of the arms generally called 'Colt's pistols,' particularly throughout the present war with Mexico. I have used them myself and seen them used in the field by others; and I do not hesitate to say that, in my humble opinion, it is the best arm of the sort now known in this or any other country. It is, indeed, the only arm in which we have a decided advantage over the troops of any other country; and I consider it a weapon especially appropriate to the regular army, which has the advantage of a more perfect discipline and more thorough instruction than can be expected of irregular troops, who, themselves, have proved the entire efficiency of this arm."

No. 45.

Brevet Lieutenant Colonel George A. Caldwell, Major of Voltigeurs, United States Army, writes: "Two years' experience with the army of the United States, in Mexico, enables me to speak with confidence of the value of Colt's patent repeating pistols. Those who had them there could not be induced to part with them at any price, whilst all those who did not have them, as far as I know, were exceedingly anxious to get them at almost any price. Such was the demand for them, amongst those whom experience in perilous and trying circumstances had taught them their value, that I have known one hundred dollars a piece offered and refused."

"I do not hesitate to say, that they ought to be substituted for the *pistols and carbine* now in use in our cavalry service."

No. 46.

Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Hooker, Assistant Adjutant General, U. S. Army, reports "that Colt's repeating pistol appears to give greater satisfaction in time of war than any weapon that has fallen under my observation."

"During the war with Mexico our officers were extremely anxious to provide themselves with Colt's pistols, and so great was the demand, I have known them to sell for \$140 each. I regard it as an invaluable arm, particularly for mounted officers and cavalry. For the last description of force it seems to possess all the advantage of the carbine, without any of the objections to that arm. My opinion of the pistol is formed from my own experience, as well as that of officers who served with me."

No. 47.

Brevet Lieutenant Colonel B. S. Roberts, Captain mounted rifles, U. S. Army, reports that Colt's pistol is the most effective weapon that can be placed in the hands of mounted men, and that since introduced into the

service, it has been universally approved. Attributes the defeat of the Mexican Generals, Torrejon and Rhea, with 600 well appointed lancers and guerrillas, by his command of 100 men, in a great measure to forty of the latter being armed with Colt's pistols.

No. 48.

Brevet Lieutenant Colonel J. McClelland, Captain Topographical Engineers, U. S. Army, writes: "It gives me great pleasure to state that the regular troops, above all other, on account of their discipline, the ease with which they can be made acquainted with the use of *any arm*, are the troops to make efficient use of Colt's pistols.

"I have frequently made the remark in Mexico, that the efficiency of the Texan rangers was owing to the arm. They used Colt's six-shooter; and it is evident to any one acquainted with fire-arms that it has immense advantages over other arms."

No. 49.

Major William H. Polk, 3d Dragoons, U. S. Army, writes: "It is the most efficient weapon that a mounted force can be armed with. One of the companies under my command in the two expeditions commanded by General Lane in Mexico, were armed with Colt's repeating pistols, and proved very efficient in two engagements with the enemy. I believe that a small force would more confidently and cheerfully encounter danger, if furnished with these pistols, than a large force would do with the usual regulation equipment. This I have seen tested."

No. 50.

Major P. Morrison, 8th Infantry, U. S. Army, writes: "From the experience I have had of these arms, I am of opinion that they would be invaluable in the hands of well disciplined troops, particularly mounted men."

No. 51.

Major J. J. McCarty, 10th Infantry, U. S. Army, writes: "With regard to Colt's improved repeating pistol, I unhesitatingly say that I believe it to be the most efficient weapon now in use, and I think it important that every mounted man in the service should be furnished with it. I have never heard any person, familiar with its use, speak of it in any other than the most favorable terms."

No. 52.

Major John F. Hunter, 11th Infantry, U. S. Army, writes: "I take great pleasure in stating that the new model pistol is a great improvement upon the old arms, and I have no doubt can be relied on under all circumstances.

"I am glad that this subject is exciting the attention of government, and I hope immediate measures may be adopted to obtain a supply of this most valuable fire-arm."

No. 53.

Major F. T. Lally, 9th Infantry, U. S. Army, writes: "The simplicity of its action, and the certainty and force with which it is fired, gave all the greatest confidence in the weapon. I have frequently known some half dozen persons armed with the large 'six-shooter' go on expeditions, when with ordinary arms, it would be considered hazardous to move with less than fifty men."

No. 54.

Major M. L. Bonham, 12th Infantry, U. S. Army, writes: "I am gratified to see that the matter of Colt's pistols is attracting the attention of Congress. For mounted troops especially, that will be employed in our extended Mexican and Indian frontier, they are incomparably superior to all other inventions, admitting of being shot with accuracy on horseback, which the ordinary carbine and rifle do not. This arm might be used, too, with great propriety by the artillery, and would be invaluable in those hand to hand conflicts which artillerists would engage in before yielding to an assault."

No. 55.

Major J. P. Gains, Kentucky volunteer rifle regiment in Mexico, considers it the best fire-arm for use under any and all circumstances. "It eminently deserves, and I trust will receive, the patronage of the government."

No. 56.

Major Ben. McCullough, Texas rangers, recommends that they be adopted to a certain extent among the regular ordnance material of our service: considers them as preferable to all other for mounted light troops in Mexico. Says they have been in use among the Texan rangers for ten years, and that their efficacy has been fairly tested. Has at this time in his possession *one* that has been used for ten years without being repaired.

No. 57.

Brevet Major James H. Carlton, Capt. 1st Dragoons, United States Army, writes: "I have had one of Colt's revolving pistols of the largest size in nearly all the campaigns of the 1st regiment of dragoons since 1840, whether upon the plains, or in the Rocky Mountains with General Kearney, or throughout Texas, and in Mexico with General Taylor, it never was out of order but once during that period, and then the main-spring was broken by an act of sheer carelessness of my own when I had taken the lock apart. I consider it the best weapon (always excepting the sabre) for mounted men I ever saw."

"If our regular cavalry could abandon the present *horse-killing* carbine, and could be furnished with such of Colt's pistols as were made for the mounted rifle regiment, the corps, in my opinion, would, at a less expense, be infinitely more efficient, and I am disposed to believe that the dragoon officers, generally, would concur with me in recommending that they be adopted by our arm of the service."

No. 58.

Brevet Major R. Arnold, Capt. 2d Dragoons, United States Army, writes: "I have for years considered the revolving pistol the very best weapon which could be furnished cavalry or mounted men, for frontier service. An experience of three years and a half in the Florida war, and more than two in the Mexican, has taught me fully to appreciate this fine weapon. I would vastly prefer, for all service in the field, that my company should dispense with the carbine, and that each man should be armed with two of Colt's revolving pistols."

No. 59.

Brevet Major Philip Kearney, Jr., Capt. 1st Regiment Dragoons, United States Army, writes: "My services on the prairie in Mexico convince me that it is the most efficient fire-arm to be put in the hands of mounted men; that it should be adopted; a pair, given to each dragoon, and the present carbine be dispensed with.

"Its advantages are obvious and immense. It is not as delicate an arm as the carbine; and in the hands of our regular dragoons will be most easily preserved in order.

"If your committee succeed in having Colt's pistols adopted, you will have the lasting thanks of every cavalry officer."

No. 60.

Brevet Major John S. Simmons, Capt. Mounted Rifles, United States Army, writes: "I fully concur in the opinion that Colt's repeating pistol should be adopted, and placed in the hands of all the mounted men in the service. Against Indians in skirmishes, or in a close fight, it is the most effective weapon in use, and the fact of holding six shots in his hand, would add much to the confidence of the soldier. I have witnessed many experiments with this pistol, at distances ranging from ten paces to eighty yards, in all of which shots were made with great certainty, in quick succession: and I have not heard a single officer speak of their utility who did not give them the preference over all others. I trust the regiment of mounted riflemen will be armed with these pistols, as they will add much to the efficiency of that corps."

No. 61.

Brevet Major D. H. Rucker, Capt. Quarter Master's Department, United States Army, writes: "I have seen these pistol used for a number of years by our frontier soldiers, and since I have been in Mexico. In every instance they have been preferred above all others.

"I think them exceedingly well adapted for cavalry, and in a close fight they must be very effective.

"If they are continued to be as well manufactured as heretofore, I do not think they will be at all liable to get out of order. There are plenty of them now in this country that have been in constant use for years, without having been repaired, that are in perfect order."

No. 62.

Brevet Major A. B. Eaton, Commissary of Subsistence, United States Army, reports that, "From a familiar acquaintance with the use and reputation of Colt's repeating fire-arms for several years—especially during the late war with Mexico—I take pleasure in giving my opinion, that these

arms possess the requisites of a perfect arm in a higher degree than any other yet invented. For safety to the person using them, for ease and rapidity of loading and discharging, for the long preservation of the charge in the loaded state, for facility in cleaning and difficulty of becoming impaired, I consider this arm entirely unequaled. I have known some instances in which one of Colt's 'six-shooters,' as the 'old Texans' call them,—have saved the lives of the wearer when attacked by several Rancheros. This arm is adapted to army use, or for private defence, (as I think,) in the highest degree."

No. 63.

Major O. Cross, Quarter Master, United States Army, states that, "While on a march to Columbia river, I considered Colt's six-shooter as an invaluable weapon, particularly on the western prairies, where you frequently meet hostile bands of Indians. While on this long march, when hunting or running buffalo, I seldom ever saw any other pistols used.

"The Indians throughout the route seem to look on it as a great curiosity, and expressed much astonishment when shown to them, and explained as to the mode of using it. This pistol was much sought after by the emigrants, and sold in Oregon at from sixty to eighty dollars. In all the towns through which I have traveled in Mexico, Colt's 'six-shooters' have been prized very highly. EE

"I have been much on the prairies of the west, and have visited many Indian tribes, and consider it by far the best pistol I have ever examined. I would wish no other for mounted troops."

No. 64.

Major Henry Hill, Paymaster, United States Army, writes: "I have seen and used almost every kind of pistol, and have no hesitation in saying that 'Colt's revolver' should be in the hands of every mounted man in our service; it is peculiarly suited to our western frontier service. One hundred mounted men, armed with Colt's revolvers, would be more effective against Indians than double that number with any other weapon."

No. 65.

Brevet Major G. J. Rains, Capt. 7th Infantry United States Army, in recommending that Colt's repeating fire-arms be furnished to his company, writes: "This is a weapon with the merits of which I have been thoroughly made acquainted, after the use of one myself for more than a year, and with which no arms that I have seen (the musket not excepted,) bear any comparison. I have satisfied myself that the simplicity of the construction surpasses that of the ordinary gun lock, and that it can be more easily repaired, while its efficiency as a small weapon is unequaled by any in service. This weapon—eight times as efficient in the fire as the musket—would inspire confidence in our ranks, however great the disparity otherwise, when we meet in action with the foe."

No. 66.

Brevet Major R. H. Chilton, Capt. 1st Dragoons, United States Army, writes: "By attention on the part of company officers to the proper preservation of Colt's repeating pistols, I think that in their present simplified form, they are as little liable to injury as the pistol at present in use; over which in all other respects, they possess great advantages. It is an arm

held in especial dread by Mexicans and Indians; and independently of the physical advantages arising from their use, its moral effect in giving increased confidence to our soldiers, and a proportionate want of it on the part of the enemy, is in itself a very strong point, as I conceive, in favor of their adoption."

No. 67.

Major John G. Reynolds, United States Marine Corps, reports that "A long experience with the 'Colt arm,' and feeling an interest as to its utility in active service, during a campaign in Mexico I made it a point to inquire of reliable persons, who were in the constant use of said weapon, as to its utility, and am gratified in being able to state that all concur in the opinion of their great superiority over all other descriptions of small arms."

"I fully concur in opinion with Captain Reynolds.

"A. A. NICHOLSON,

Major and Quarter-master Marine Corps."

No. 68.

Major J. L. Freaner, General Scott's Staff in Mexico, considers them the best arms in use; says that he was informed by Colonel Hays, if his men had not been armed with them, when Padre Jarauta attacked him at Teotoleucan, that he would have lost his command of 70 men: and that it was by the aid of this weapon that he was enabled to repulse the guerilla chief without the loss of a man.

No. 69.

Major G. W. Kendall, attached to Major General Worth's Staff in Mexico, considers Colt's heavy pistol as the very best ever invented, for use on horseback. No Texan ranger considers himself equipped without one of them.

No. 70.

Captain M. E. Van Buren, Mounted Riflemen, United States Army, writes: "The introduction of this pistol into our mounted regiments, would render them the most formidable cavalry in the world. So well satisfied am I of the importance and efficiency of this arm, that I intended to apply in the proper quarter for it for my company of mounted riflemen. I trust now, however, that Congress will render such an application unnecessary by the adoption of your joint resolution."

No. 71.

Captain S. H. Walker, Mounted Rifles, United States Army, considers the revolver as the only good improvement he has seen; instances the defeat of eighty Camanches by Colonel Hays and fifteen men as a particularly striking incident to show their value; in which fight forty-two Indians were killed.

No. 72.

Captain Edward Deas, 4th Artillery, United States Army, writes: "I regard Colt's pistol as the most efficient weapon I have ever seen for cavalry, and as a small arm, or accessory means of defence for light artillery. I believe that those arms of the service should never be without these arms; and with them their efficiency is quadrupled."

No. 73.

Captain H. Swartwout, 2d Artillery, United States Army, writes: "In relation to the comparative efficiency of your repeating pistols for the dragoon arm of the service, I take pleasure in giving my testimony in their favor."

No. 74.

Captain G. H. Tobin, Texas Rangers, writes: "As to the objection raised by persons who have had no experience in the use of these arms, that they may not stand exposure, I would relate the following fact:—Major Ben McCullough, with 16 men, in returning to Texas, after the capture of Monterey, in an encounter with the Camanche Indians, lost one of these pistols after having discharged three chambers. Three months afterward, he and I, and some others, traveling over the same ground, found the pistol, where it had lain exposed to the storms of the whole season; and putting new caps on the nipples of the two loaded chambers, they were discharged as though they had been loaded but the day before. More than twenty men were witnesses to it; and I think General Lane, Major McCullough, Capt. Chevalie, Capt. Henrie, and many others have good reasons to testify to the superiority of the weapon. Few men, who know the use of them, would, if going into action, part with them under any circumstances."

No. 75.

Captain H. W. Benhart, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, reports: "I consider Colt's many chambered pistol indispensable in the holsters of every mounted officer or soldier. While serving on reconnoitering parties, during our recent war with Mexico, in which I was generally escorted by parties of the Texan rangers, (of which troops we had several companies, unsurpassed in the world, I can not but believe for such duties, and who had used Colt's arms for several years, whenever they could obtain them,) we always felt that we were not properly armed without these weapons, and with them, thought ourselves fully competent to cope with four or five times our numbers armed in any other manner. And with all due deference to any opinion that may be entertained by those who have had more experience in regular cavalry service, than officers in our army have been able to acquire, I have long been of the opinion, that these arms must eventually supersede the use of carbines and carbineers; for I can not conceive that there would be one occasion in a hundred, where the cavalry soldier would require, or could use any other weapon than one of Colt's largest size pistols."

No. 76.

Captain S. G. French, Assistant Quarter-master, U. S. Army, reports that, "During more than a year's service on the frontiers of Texas and Mexico, I had ample opportunity to test the use of Colt's repeating pistols. Their 'range,' certainty and *precision* of firing, commend their general use. Another advantage they have over the ordinary pistol, is the great confidence they always give persons thus armed, and the corresponding dread they create in parties to attack men so prepared with the means of defence. Such confidence was reposed in those pistols, that whenever I had occasion to send small parties in advance, or to employ

express-riders to carry the mails through the Indian country, it was always made a condition, that they should be furnished with Colt's revolvers; otherwise they would not risk their lives in such service. I might add, as a further proof of their efficiency for protection, that while other arms were cheap and abundant, Colt's revolvers would command three times their original cost; and often, persons thus armed, would not part with them for any consideration."

No. 77.

Captain C. H. Corser, Quarter master Department, U. S. Army, reports: "During my stay of a year and a half, in all parts of California, the arms of Colt's construction were the only ones sought after, both by the officers of the army, navy, and citizens. The great difficulty has been, and is now, to obtain them at any price; but when obtained, all other revolvers have been discarded as useless. I may apply the same remarks relative to their merits during the Mexican war."

No. 78.

Lieut. B. F. McDonald, 3d Artillery, U. S. Army, speaks in high terms of these arms. He says: "I have seen Col. Hays hold in check more than five hundred Mexicans, with thirty men armed with these pistols, and being reinforced by about thirty men, actually drove that large force before them, killing more than eighty of them."

No. 79.

Lieutenant William A. T. Maddox, United States Marine Corps, writes: "My command, of about forty horsemen, were armed with Colt's repeating carbines and pistols, during the campaign in California. They were exposed, without tents, in every kind of weather, and I do not hesitate to say, that with ordinary care in the soldier, under instruction from their officers, no weapon can be so efficient. I found them as little liable to accident as the best government muskets, and to be relied on under all circumstances. In one instance, when I had occasion to swim the Santa Cruz river on horseback, the arms were necessarily three-quarters of an hour immersed under water, and an hour and a half afterward, when an opportunity for trying them offered, it was found that only one out of the whole number of charges failed to go off, and that merely in consequence of an imperfection in the percussion cap. The simplicity of construction, and the apparatus for loading, which have been employed in the new model pistol that I have recently examined, give it even additional advantage, and render it completely comprehensible by the commonest soldier."

No. 80.

Report of Board of Dragoon Officers. The board, which was composed of Captains W. W. Tompkins, William W. Fulton, and J. Graham, after a series of experiments, reported: that it is firmly the opinion of the board, that when this fire-arm is once introduced, and its superiorities over every other become known, it will be universally used."

Generals Twiggs and Harney indorse the above report as follows:—

"Having been present when most of the experiments above reported were made, and fired the pistol ourselves, we fully concur with the board in opinion."

No. 81.

"We, the undersigned, have examined Colt's repeating fire-arms, and some of us have witnessed sundry experiments, which have been made to prove their safety, simplicity, durability, accuracy and celerity of fire, force of penetration, and security against moisture; and we are convinced that they possess many important advantages, both for public and private service. As an act of justice to the ingenious inventor, we most cordially recommend them to the patronage of the government and the public."

ALEXANDER MACOMB, *Major-General Commanding, U. S. Army.*
 HENRY STANTON, *Col. and Assistant Quarter-Master Gen U. S. A.*
 J. J. ABERT, *Colonel Topographical Engineers, U. S. A.*
 JAMES KEARNEY, *Lieut. Colonel Topographical Engineers U. S. A.*
 R. B. MASON, *Lieut. Colonel 1st Dragoons, U. S. A.*
 J. H. HOOK, *Major and Assistant Commissary Gen. Subsistence, U. S. A.*
 HENRY WILSON, *Major 3d Infantry, U. S. A.*
 JOHN GARLAND " " "
 WILLIAM TURNBULL, *Major Topographical Engineers, U. S. A.*
 WILLIAM GIBBS McNEILL, *Maj. Topographical Engineers, U. S. A.*
 L. WHITING, *Brevet Major Artillery, U. S. Army.*
 J. P. SIMONTON, *Captain 1st Dragoons, U. S. Army.*
 W. W. TOMPKINS, *Captain 2d Dragoons, " "*
 R. B. SCREVEN, *Captain 8th Infantry, " "*
 JOHN PAGE, *Captain 4th Infantry, " "*
 A. R. HETZEL, *Captain Quarter-Master's Department, U. S. Army.*
 J. McCLELLAN, *Captain Topographical Engineers, U. S. Army.*
 A. CANFIELD, " " " "
 J. N. MACOMB, " " " "
 THOMAS J. LEE, *Lieutenant " " "*
 W. H. EMORY, *Lieutenant 4th Artillery, U. S. Army.*
 J. T. SPRAGUE, *Lieutenant 8th Infantry, " "*
 M. KNOWLTON, *Lieutenant 1st Artillery, and Instructor of Artillery United States Military Academy,*
 LAWRENCE KEARNEY, *Captain United States Navy.*
 THOMAS N. GROVERS, *Lieutenant " " "*
 JOHN BARNEY, " " " "
 M. C. BUCK, *Military Store Keeper, and Paymaster Ord. Dep., U. S. A.*

No. 82.

Major G. T. Howard, late of Texas Regiment, and Captain Sutton, late of Texas Rangers, state: "We deem Colt's repeating pistols to be the greatest improvement in small arms of the age. We have been familiar with the use of this effective invention, on the frontiers of Texas, since 1839, and we do unhesitatingly affirm, that they give the combatant more confidence and a greater spirit of defiance in those hand to hand struggles with the prairie Indians, than any other arm now in use.

"Those prairie tribes ride with boldness and wonderful skill, and are, perhaps, unsurpassed, as irregular cavalry. They are so dextrous in the use of the bow, that a single Indian, at full speed, is capable of keeping an arrow constantly in the air, between himself and the enemy; therefore, to encounter such an expert antagonist, with any certainty of doing

execution, requires an impetuous charge, skillful horsemanship, and a rapid discharge of shots, such as can only be delivered with Colt's six-shooters. They are the only weapon which has enabled the experienced frontiers-man to defeat the mounted Indian in his own peculiar mode of warfare; in those encounters which, though soon over, require a steady nerve, the greatest possible precision and celerity of movement, there is no time to reload fire-arms, even were it possible to do so, and manage your horse, in the midst of a quick and wily enemy, ever on the watch and ready to lance the first man who may loose the least control of his animal. In this description of service, Colt's revolver asserts its great and unquestionable superiority over all other weapons. We state, and with entire assurance of the fact, that Colt's six-shooter is the arm which has rendered the name of Texas ranger, a check and terror to the hostile bands of our frontier Indians. With our citizens they are considered unparalleled in the force and accuracy of their shooting, and are esteemed an invaluable weapon in offensive operations against the marauding tribes which depredate upon our frontier settlements.

"As for the difficulty of keeping these pistols in order, which is sometimes raised as an objection, we have never discovered any. They can only become unfit for service in the hands of men who never possessed the proper pride of a soldier, or where discipline must be most egregiously neglected."

No. 83.

A board of navy officers, appointed by the Hon. Secretary of the Navy, and consisting of Captain John Thomas Newton, Commanders John D. Williamson, James M. McIntosh, Lieutenants Andrew A. Harwood, Stephen Johnston, Frederick Chatard, Cicero Price, Richard W. Meade, and William T. Muse, report that: "It would be almost superfluous to say any thing more than is expressed in the reports; for there can be but one opinion on the subject of these fire-arms, and that is, their superiority, in every respect, over those in common use in our navy. As a weapon for boarding, Colt's pistol possesses incalculable advantages over those in common use. With the former you have five discharges, which, if necessary, can be fired in as many seconds; with the latter, you have but one at your command; for, after firing once, it will be almost impossible, in the heat of battle, and the confusion attendant on boarding the enemy, or of repelling him, to reload it. The celerity with which Colt's arms may be fired, is, beyond a doubt, in their favor, compared with the ordinary ship musket and pistol. Their accuracy has been fully and satisfactorily proved. The force, or relative degrees of penetration of the balls, appear to have been slightly in favor of the musket. This difference, however, in itself, of no great importance, was owing to the musket cartridge and ball being much larger than that of the charge of Colt's carbine. With an equal quantity of powder forming the charge of each, the result would be in favor of the carbine.

"The proof of their capability to stand exposure to water, which is a consideration of great importance, has been established by the fact that I directed several of the cylinders to be immersed in a bucket of water, and kept in that situation for two hours; when taken out most of the charges were fired; some, to be sure, failed to go off, but this was owing to the inferiority of the percussion caps used on that occasion, and not the effect of the water, for, on examination, the charges were found perfectly free

from dampness. It is well known that common muskets or pistols, become useless very soon after being exposed to the wet.

"The safety of Colt's fire-arms is manifest, and can be depended upon. Loose powder was scattered in the opening around the percussion caps, the gun discharged, and the loose powder remained unignited, as well as the remaining charges in the cylinder."

No. 84.

Report on the second series of experiments by the above Board.

UNITED STATES STEAM FRIGATE FULTON, }
Navy Yard, New York, }

SIR :—I have the honor to inclose, herewith, the results of a second experiment made between Colt's repeating-arms and the musket in common use ; on which occasion (at Governor's Island, on the 19th instant,) they were also tested in comparison with Hall's patent carbines.

This was the earliest opportunity afforded, apart from other duties, to carry into effect your order of the 18th ultimo, and the wishes of the Navy Board on that subject.

1.—Accuracy of firing.

A target, five feet by two, was placed at a distance of seventy-five yards, at which eight marines, with *Colt's arms*, fired each three rounds, making in all, twenty-four. Five shots hit the target outside the bull's-eye.

The same number of marines, with *Hall's arms*, fired each three rounds, making twenty-four. Six shots hit the target ; one on the ring, and one half an inch of the bull's-eye.

The same number of marines, with the *common musket*, fired each three rounds, making twenty-four. Ten shots hit the target ; two inside of the ring.

2.—Celerity of firing.

Eight marines, with *Colt's arms*, fired for five minutes, (the time accurately observed by a stop-watch,) and discharged, in that time, *one hundred and eighty-four balls*.

The same number of marines, with *Hall's arms*, discharged in the same space of time, *ninety balls*.

The same number of marines, with the *common musket*, in the same space of time, discharged *ninety-five balls*.

During these experiments, the cold was intense ; owing to which, the men were not so expert. This may account for the indifferent shooting. Nevertheless, the celerity of firing appears to have resulted much in favor of *Colt's arms*. In point of accuracy, however, (which will be considered of minor importance,) there seems to be a slight difference in favor of the other arms.

Not being perfectly satisfied with the first trial, as to accuracy, another was made, and the result was as follows :—

The target being placed at the same distance, the eight marines, with *Colt's arms* fired each three rounds ; six shots striking the target, two inside the ring.

The same number of marines, with *Hall's arms*, fired each three rounds ; four shots striking the target, two inside the ring.

The same number of marines, with the *common musket*, fired each three rounds; six shots striking the target, one on the ring.

I can not but repeat, as in a former report, my unqualified opinion as to the advantages which *Colt's arms* possess over every other now in use. I consider Hall's carbine a very unsafe and dangerous weapon, particularly in the hands of inexperienced men. If care be not taken, that part of the breech which opens for the reception of the charge is apt to be pressed up by the left hand as you present the piece to fire; the catch being placed immediately where the left hand is applied. In shouldering the piece, the same thing might occur; in consequence of which, the charge not only would be lost, but serious results might be experienced by the explosion to the person firing the piece, and those near him.

Another objection to Hall's carbines is, that they will not stand exposure to wet weather; but, owing to their peculiar construction, are as liable to become useless as the common musket, if allowed to be exposed to the wet for ten minutes. Colt's arms can remain immersed in water for two or three hours, and when taken out are as effective as before.

The ramrod, or, more properly, the lever, has been very ingeniously fitted permanently to Colt's carbine, and facilitates, in a great degree, the loading. This is an important improvement, and the liability to drop the lever is now obviated.

The reports of the officers of the *Fulton*, who were present and witnessed the above mentioned experiments, are herewith inclosed.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN THOMAS NEWTON, *Captain.*

COM. JAMES RENSHAW,

Commanding Naval Station, New York.

U. S. STEAMER FULTON.

SIR:—In obedience to your order of the 18th instant, we proceeded to Governor's Island on the 19th instant, and in company with yourself and other officers of the navy, with some few of the army, witnessed, a second time, the experiments between Mr. Colt's repeating-arms, the common ship's muskets, and, in this instance, with Hall's rifles.

We deemed our former experiments with the repeating-arms and common muskets and pistols as very satisfactory; and consequently without hesitation gave our opinion in favor of the former being adopted, in the place of the common small arms in our navy; and our opinion as to their superiority has only been strengthened by these last experiments.

Indeed we look upon Hall's rifles, as they are now made, as exceedingly dangerous; and, in the hands of unpracticed seamen, accidents must be constantly occurring, for this very simple reason: there is nothing to prevent the breech from flying up, or opening at the very spot usually taken hold of by the left hand in the act of firing, and which occurrence must be attended with serious results to the men firing them. We believe we are sustained, in the opinion expressed in regard to the danger, by the officers of the army who have seen them used.

The celerity of the fire in this instance, as previously, will be seen to be in favor of Colt's repeating-arms, although used by marines unaccustomed to them. Eight marines fired Colt's repeating-arms for five minutes, and discharged, in that time, 184 balls. They were given thirty balls each, and one of them discharged his thirty and called for a fresh supply before the time expired. The same eight marines with Hall's

rifles, in the same space of time fired ninety balls; and with the common musket, ninety-five balls.

During these experiments the weather was intensely cold, and, although every precaution was taken to shelter the men, they suffered seriously, and were, of course, not as expert as they would have been in milder weather; and which, in our opinion, prevented any fair test as to accuracy at this time. The men were shivering with cold, and could not hold the arms steadily. We are of opinion, however, that these last experiments are all in favor of Colt's repeating-arms. We would also remark, that Mr. Colt having now attached permanently the ramrod to the carbine, we consider the facility of loading very much increased, and removes an objection hitherto entertained in regard to them, in consequence of the ramrod being detached and therefore liable to be lost.

We are, most respectfully, your obedient servants,

J. D. WILLIAMSON, *Commander.*

JAS. M. McINTOSH, *Commander.*

ANDREW A. HARWOOD,

Lieutenant United States Navy.

CICERO PRICE,

Lieutenant United States Navy.

STEPHEN JOHNSON, *Lieutenant.*

FRED. CHATARD, *Lieutenant.*

R. W. MEADE, *Lieutenant.*

To Captain JOHN T. NEWTON,
Commanding Steamer.

No. 85.

Subsequently to the above, another board of navy and marine officers, consisting of Captains C. S. McAuley and J. H. Aulick, of the navy, and Major L. Twiggs, United States marine corps, was ordered by the honorable Secretary of the Navy, to make further examinations of these arms, who report:—

"They are *decidedly* of opinion that every vessel of war should be supplied with a sufficient number of these pistols for arming boat expeditions, where the perfect security of the charge from injury by sprays of the sea or surf of the beach, and the facility with which they may be loaded on these occasions, or their receivers shifted, when their possessor is even lying down in the bottom of his boat, would always, in the opinion of the board, give them an *incalculable advantage* over other arms now used in the service.

No. 86.

Commodore Charles Stewart, United States Navy, in a letter to the inventor, of January 21st, 1851, states: "Although I have not any practical experience in relation to your improved fire-arms, yet the exhibit of your revolving pistol to me, satisfies me, that the '*Colt Revolver*' will prove a most efficient weapon for offense as well as defense, in close combat by boarders from ships of war, as well as boats armed for boarding. In the Navy of the United States, the *Colt pistol* would constitute a formidable defensive means in the possession of the officers, should armed resistance to *mutiny* ever prove necessary. In boarding armed vessels hastily, the interference of rigging, sails, &c., embarrass the boarders very much, who

are armed with cutlasses. On such occasions, opponents might be more readily prostrated or cleared away by the convenience of your pistol, and the powers of its speedy repeating fire, than by other small arms ; and it frequently occurs in closely pressed combat, that cutlasses are almost useless, or easily stricken from a feeble hand."

No. 87.

Commodore Thomas Ap. C. Jones, United States Navy, reports: "It is now about nine years, if I rightly remember, since a number of Colt's repeating-arms were, by order of the Secretary of the Navy, put on board my flag ship, then bound on a cruise to the Pacific. It was on that cruise that I made the first demonstration on California, Monterey, and I think on my return home, I stated how much I felt myself strengthened while in occupation of the town of Monterey against the Mexican General's threatened attack, by having an hundred each of Colt's carbines and dragoon pistols, in the hands of my small party in possession of the town and fort. Even at that day I considered Colt's pistols nearly or quite perfect, but the subsequent improvements, I am inclined to think, render them as nearly perfect as can be expected. During my late cruise, while in California, I witnessed some of the most remarkable shooting with one of Colt's new Dragoon pistols I ever saw ; it beating, at a very long musket range, a U. S. musket, and a first rate *western Virginia bear rifle*. These facts I state, believing them to be worth more than all else I could say."

No. 88.

Commodore E. W. Moore, Texas Navy, writes: "I take pleasure in stating that, while in command of the Texas Navy, I had an excellent opportunity of testing the *efficiency* and *durability* of these arms.

"The Texas volunteers of war were armed with Colt's pistols and carbines, which were on very frequent occasions exposed in boats and bad weather, and I unhesitatingly assert that they are as little injured by exposure to the weather as the common musket or ship's pistol. Of their *efficiency*, I think it useless to say any thing.

"The Colt pistols, used by the Texas rangers before annexation, were all supplied from the navy, after they had been in *constant use* in that arm of the service *upward* of four years ; and I know some of these arms that have been in constant use for *nine years*, and are *still good*.

"I have seen the recently improved model, which has several alterations, or rather improvements, which make it a *better arm* than those I had in use in the Texas Navy, which were among the first manufactured by the inventor."

No. 89.

Commodore M. C. Perry, United States Navy, states: "My residence in the country deprives me of many professional advantages. Still I promise myself the satisfaction of testing, in actual service, the utility of your beautiful piece. The high recommendations of the naval officers recently connected with me, in the gun practice, is a sufficient guarantee, in my estimation, of their excellence."

"Against Indians, the immense advantage they give, and the fear they occasion, by the rapidity of their discharges, renders them invaluable. No one going to or through a dangerous country, should think of leaving unprovided with an article so essential to safety.

No. 94.

Lieut. Ringgold, United States Navy, writes: "I fully believe that Colt's repeating pistol, more particularly for naval purposes, embraces more advantages than any heretofore seen. There is but one opinion—all are desirous of having them introduced and adopted on board our ships of war; and I feel confident a few months will only be necessary to effect the object."

No. 95.

Charles H. Haswell, Engineer in Chief, United States Navy, reports that: "From an extended acquaintance with the operation of Colt's repeating pistol, I am of the opinion that it combines the essential points of facility of loading, and rapidity of discharge, in a degree that renders it indispensable as an arm of attack or defense, and it has not any disadvantages of construction that invalidate these points."

No. 96.

H. R. Tennison, formerly of the Texas Navy, writes: "That Colt's repeating pistols were under my charge, as a Texan naval officer, when at war with Mexico, for several years, and I confidently assert and believe, that they are the most efficient weapon of this kind in the world. Their great superiority consists in their adaptation to frontier defense, as well as on board ship.

"With but little care they can be kept perfectly clean, and in first-rate order, as much so as the most ordinary English musket, and above all, they never miss fire."

No. 97.

"WASHINGTON, Feb. 26, 1850.

"DEAR SIR:—I have your letter of yesterday, asking my opinion of Colt's repeating pistols, and requesting me to state, generally, the estimate in which they are held in California. In reply, I have no hesitation in saying that, in my opinion, they are far superior to any other invention of fire-arms; and, I think I may say, this is the unanimous opinion of all who have used them. They are not only superior, but so far superior to any other description of weapon, that no man who knows any thing of them, and who has occasion to use arms at all, will use any other.

"These pistols were selling among the miners, as I was informed last summer, from \$250 to \$500—according to size. They were, undoubtedly of the greatest service in enabling the Americans to maintain their superiority among greatly superior numbers of Mexicans and other foreigners, during the early part of the gold-digging season, when the foreigners outnumbered the Americans three or four to one; and in many instances, threatened to drive them from the mines, and probably would have attempted it but for these pistols, which had generally been procured by

No. 90.

Commodore L. T. Johnston, United States Navy, reports: "I have frequently used Colt's revolvers. I consider them the most valuable fire-arms now in use, and would be highly pleased to see them in general use in the navy."

No. 91.

Captain Charles Alvarado Hunter, United States Navy, reports: "I have for some time past used Colt's repeating-arms; and have made a fair and impartial trial of them, and I take great pleasure in stating, that I consider them the most effective weapon I have yet seen. I should be pleased, if possible, to see every vessel in commission, provided with them, and indeed consider them indispensable."

No. 92.

Lieutenant W. May, United States Navy, reports: "During my residence in California from April to November, 1849, Colt's repeating pistol was in great demand, and considered infinitely superior to any other kind of pistol; readily bringing in the market the highest prices. I saw many of them sold for \$150—the large size—and \$100 for the small pistol.

"When I left California, the country was completely glutted with every other description of weapon, and fire-arms generally consequently much cheaper than when I first entered the country, but Colt's pistol was always in high repute and bringing a handsome profit. For my own part, I have no hesitation in saying that I much prefer it for defence to any other pistol, and in a country like California, would never be without one."

No. 93.

Lieut. E. F. Beale, United States Navy, reports: "I have used Colt's repeating pistols constantly for the last four years, during which time I have been continually going or returning with dispatches between California and Washington. Nothing I can say here can express, as fully as I could wish, my high opinion of their superiority over any other arms I have ever used or known.

"In my experience of them, I have found that the same care which it is necessary to bestow on an ordinary single-barreled pistol, will keep them in perfect order, and no one but those whose dependence for life has been their weapons, can appreciate the satisfaction which the possession of one of them occasions in situations of danger.

"They shoot with the precision and force of a rifle; and although I would never go into an Indian country without a rifle, yet I would, in such a place, much rather part with my gun than my pistol.

"Of the strength with which they throw a ball, one instance which I will give, will be sufficient to satisfy the most exacting. In a buffalo hunt, I fired at and struck a fat cow, in the fattest and most fleshy part of the rump. The ball ranged upward, and passing through the whole mass, shattered and broke in two the back bone!

"For such sport as running buffalo, or elk, when they are fat and can be caught by a horseman, they are, beyond all question, the finest arms in the world.

our countrymen. They were equally useful in keeping the Indians in check. In fact, they are so readily used and so perfectly destructive, that all who can, procure them, and they are held in the most perfect dread by all who have any occasion to fear that they may be used against them. They were of the greatest service to the emigrant, and gave them a commanding superiority over all who might have been inclined to molest them. One gentleman informed me that he attributed the safety of himself and twenty-five companions entirely to the possession of these pistols. They were surrounded by hostile Indians, who, when they discovered these pistols in the hands of the emigrants, permitted them to proceed without further molestation. I am sure the emigrants and the country are much indebted to you for your efforts to have them supplied with these arms. A book might be written in their praise; but I trust I have said enough in this hasty scrawl to satisfy you of my opinion of their value.

"Most respectfully and truly,

"Your obedient servant,

"T. BUTLER KING,

Collector of the Port of San Francisco, California.

To General JAMES WILSON,

Committee on Military Affairs, House of Rep's.

No. 98.

Extract from a Report published in the "Huntsville Democrat," Alabama.

"Detaching a company of Rangers to engage and destroy this outpost, the general passed on, side by side with the daring Hays, into the heart of the town. From the house-tops, from the doors and windows on each side of the street, a storm of bullets were poured upon them. Returning the fire of the Mexicans only by an occasional shot, as some eager assailant incautiously exposed his person, the Americans passed forward with unabated rapidity, for the main Plaza. Here they were encountered by a body of lancers under Jarauta in person; but as well might a feeble barrier of sand be expected to stay the current of the mighty Mississippi. On went the Rangers, neither sword or lance in the right hand, but in lieu thereof the terrible "revolver," ready poised for its bloody work. A little nearer, and without a word of command, without a signal, save the example of their leader, they poured in their deadly fire, and with a wild shout burst with irresistible fury upon the Mexican ranks. Down went horse and rider—down went lance and guidon. Like a tempest, the men of the States swept over them, and the gay uniforms of the lancers—their red bonnets and gaudy plumes, carpeted the stone pavements of the Plaza. For the success of this charge, Col. Hays had relied on the bone and muscle of his horses, even more than the intrepidity of his men.

"The enemy once broken and scattered, the battle became a succession of single combats, in which man after man went down before the fire of the "revolvers," with appalling rapidity. Not a single lancer was unharmed,—Jarauta himself was twice wounded, and finally, after doing all that courage and conduct could effect, made his escape almost by a miracle."

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